

April 7, 1975

would be, it will not affect your ambulance service, if this bill is passed with the amendments.

SENATOR KIME: Senator Kennedy, I am not asking about the ambulance service. I am asking about the private party that has to move this sick man in in a hurry.

SENATOR KENNEDY: They certainly will not be under this bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Barnett.

SENATOR BARNETT: I guess, Mr. President, I have to tell Senator Kennedy that there is not complete agreement with the bill, as Senator Rasmussen said before and a couple of others. There was a group of volunteer firemen, the Executive officers, came down to the store where I work approximately two Saturdays ago and I had asked them to stop back past your place on the way home. Evidently, they did not do it. The President of the board, a Mr. Clinkenbeard, and a Jim Baird was there and a couple of other people. I can't think of their names right now and I am sorry for that but there was a question they had and I think Senator Lewis has touched on this and that was that they were afraid that the fire service, the volunteer fire service, was going to be fragmented by putting the Department of Health in charge of the EMT...the EMT program which, in effect, is being trained now by people under the Tech College Boards who have control of the instructions for these people, these volunteer firemen and I might add the paid fire departments are also taking training with these people and that they wanted to have the Department of Health taken out of there and that is what Senator Lewis was touching on. What we would like to do is see if we couldn't keep this Emergency Medical Training program under the Tech College areas and the Tech College Boards and eliminating a step of bureaucracy, thus losing approximately 25% of the funds. That was what we were talking to John Sullivan this morning about and I think we are going to approach that on Select File. I did want to report to you that these...I think I did tell you, by the way, that these people had been in to talk to me and, if I hadn't, I apologize for not telling you. But I would also like to point to another issue on the same bill. Senator Mahoney brought it up and the people that are interested and have paid departments, I think you had better look at Page 20... section 23 and section 24 of the bill. Senator Kennedy said this is for volunteers and don't let that go over your head because it is not. It is for anybody, anybody that has to do with medical transporting a patient upon any street, road, highway or public way in the state of Nebraska has to be licensed by this Board through whatever Department it ends up in. Under this bill, it is the Department of Health. I think that the...I think Senator Mahoney is right in trying to get somebody on the Board but this also affects the paid departments and the private ambulances companies and anybody that is going to transport people when they are called for assistance. I think that is the big word you have to rely on. The private person, like Senator Kime says, I don't think would be affected at all but we are going to try something to eliminate some of the steps in trying to get this